



**Village of El Portal  
Regular Village Council Meeting  
Date: 11/16/21  
Meeting Start: 7:00 PM  
Meeting End: 9:45 PM  
Meeting Length: 02.48.52**

[background conversation]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Hello, hello, hello. Good to see everybody. How's everybody doing? Good to see you, good to see you. Some people are looking at me like, "I think I saw him come out earlier with a hat on. You're like Superman that did a change real quick. He was changing the marquee about 20 minutes ago," but it's all good. All right, you guys. You guys can take your seat. We're going to get started. I think you guys have a big party planned after this. There you go.

[background conversation]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** All right. Good to see everybody here. The **[unintelligible 00:06:50]** council meeting for Tuesday, November 16th, 2021, is called to order at 7:04 PM. First, we want to stand-up for one moment of silent meditation, then followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Speakers:** I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** **[unintelligible 00:07:25]**, let's have a roll call.

**Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi:** Roll call. Mayor Nickerson.

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Here.

**Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi:** Vice Mayor Urbom.

**Vice Mayor Anders Urbom:** Here.

**Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi:** Councilperson Pirela.

**Councilperson Luis Pirela:** Here.

**Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi:** Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward.

**Councilperson Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward:** Here.

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**Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi:** Councilperson Martin.

**Councilperson Darian Martin:** Present.

**Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi:** Also present for the record, Jenise Jacobi, Village Clerk, Christia Alou, Village Manager, and [inaudible 00:07:43]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Thank you very much. Thank you very much, Madame Clerk. Next, the approval of the agenda. I think I have one deletion, is the October minutes. [inaudible 00:07:55] four minutes is the only deletion. Besides that, do I have a motion to approve the agenda? Thank you very much. Motion to approve moved by Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Do I have a second?

**Vice Mayor Anders Urbom:** I'll second.

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Second with deletion, Vice Mayor Urbom. All in favor say, "Aye."

**Speakers:** Aye.

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** All opposed say, "Nay." Hearing none, moving on. Acknowledgement of visitors and-or special presentations. Nice, you guys. Let's get started. The Council, you guys can join me down.

You're good? You guys getting formal? Shout out to Full Moon here. Y'all, we're going to start off with something that's not a very happy thing, then we're going to move on to something that's bittersweet, and then the final thing we're going to have is going to be something where we all get some happiness and joy. We're going to start subtle; we're going to move up higher and higher. November the first, if you guys remember, is pancreatic cancer awareness month. Throughout the years, our community, we always acknowledge pancreatic cancer in November.

It's interesting, because every year that we've had this on the agenda, when the agenda goes out the last week [unintelligible 00:09:41] before. What happens is that I'll always get a few residents that reach out to me, and they'll say, "Oh, it's good to see you guys are acknowledging pancreatic cancer. I had my dad passed away from it," or "My uncle passed away from it." Nothing was different this past weekend.

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I just had a few residents reach out and they said that they were happy to see that we are going to acknowledge pancreatic cancer in November. I just want to say to those residents, I told them what we've been doing, and they can watch this on Zoom, or they can watch it in Beta. I just want to say to you all, and you know who you are, I won't put your names out there, but our heart goes out to you and the entire community for everything that you do in your [unintelligible 00:10:24].

It's interesting, because it's almost like every month we get to talk about [inaudible 00:10:31], right? A couple of months ago we were here, we did childhood cancer. Then last month we did breast cancer. Now it's pancreatic cancer. Its just cancer is one of those things that in our society throughout history that we continue to battle. We just can't give up the fight when it comes to that.

I do want to say something just education-wise before we conclude here, and I'll allow the Council to speak if they want to say something, but if you have these symptoms- abdominal back pain, jaundice, low appetite, weight loss, swelling of the gallbladder, blood clots, pulmonary embolism, diabetes, fatty stool or gray stool, nausea or vomiting, fever and chills, and some fatigue and constant fatigue, you guys. Not just fever and chills, but fever and chills with constant fatigue over a long period of time, you have a long period of time with diarrhea or constipation, then please go to the doctor, because those are telltale signs of pancreatic cancer.

The bottom line as always with any disease, with anything that we got to go through in life, the bottom line is try, if you can, to always go get regular checkups. Try, if you can, to always go get regular checkups. A lot of these things, if they catch it early, your chance for survival [unintelligible 00:12:00]. Council, [unintelligible 00:12:03]. Thank you very much, you, guys. I appreciate that. Again, our heart goes out to everybody who's [unintelligible 00:12:10]. All right, moving on, you guys.

Now we're going to go to bittersweet, all right. The next thing we're going to talk about is good old Chief Magnusson. Chief Magnusson have been with us for a little, and throughout his time that he's been here, I've grown very close to Chief. Chief, we're not even going to talk about too many different things, Chief, but, there's so many different times where you and I had to come together [unintelligible 00:12:50] many times we had to come together and just take care of things and do things that were just never mentioned.

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It's interesting, because I had a meeting today with somebody from the Department of Water and Sewer. That reminded me-- Chief, I don't know if you remember this **[unintelligible 00:13:11]** Chief, you're going to shake your head up and down as soon as I say this, Chief, but Chief, a while ago, a **[unintelligible 00:13:19]** time ago, Chief, it was early Sunday morning. It was about 2:30, three o'clock AM, Chief. You called me, because over here in the community there was water going everywhere.

This was early Sunday morning about 2:45, three o'clock AM. You called me. You said, "Mayor, there's a leak. Water is flooding the entire community. It's flooding the entire Village, pouring off your street." He said, "I called the Department of Water and Sewer," he was like, "but they're ignoring me."

[laughter]

He said, "Maybe with a name like Mayor **[unintelligible 00:14:00]** maybe they'll **[unintelligible 00:14:02]** to you." I said, "Okay, Chief, no problem. Chief let's just keep going. Let's just keep going. Keep going." Y'all know what I did to save the Village? I said you have to be persistent.

For about 3:00 AM-- This is Sunday morning now. About 3:00 AM to about 5:45, 6:00 AM, we called them back-to-back to back. They kept telling us-- I said, "It must be a water pipe or something that broke." "No. We're looking at our maps right now. There's no water pipes in El Portal." We all got removed from that area 15 years ago, 20 years. I'm like, "I'm telling you. It must be a sewage pipe." **[unintelligible 00:14:42]**

We got septic tanks, so it can't be a sewage pipe. Anyway, he kept putting me- well, with the supervisor. I said, "Put me with that supervisor."

"Sir, it's Sunday morning. He's asleep. I'm not waking him up." Kept calling. Pestered him so much, me and Chief, we were on those phones for about three hours until when they came out. Finally got the third supervisor that told everybody else, "Oh, well, there wasn't an old map. We didn't remove every water pipe, and then we just forgot to put it on the new maps."

They came out Sunday morning, and we took care of flooding, because we didn't want that to affect the villagers and affect their property and affect everything they had to go through. Chief, I've been through so much with you. **[unintelligible 00:15:24]** come on up. I've been

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through so much with you and the county's been through so much with you, and you've always been there for us. We really appreciate it.

Listen-- Oh, Chief, you've got to bring your [unintelligible 00:15:37]. You've got to bring my friend up with you now. You have to bring, Chief-- That's my homegirl right there. You got to bring her up.

[laughter]

[applause]

[unintelligible 00:15:57] Council to say something [unintelligible 00:15:58] this is very important not only, you guys, in all seriousness, because the chief is not only retiring from the Village of El Portal. We're just blessed to have you doing your retirement here, because you're retiring from a long career in law enforcement [unintelligible 00:16:15]

[applause]

Would you [unintelligible 00:16:25]?

[laughter]

**Alejandro Mendez:** I appreciate it. "To Chief [unintelligible 00:16:29] David Magnusson. In appreciation for your tireless effort and commitment to the men and women of the El Portal Police Department, your guidance, steadfastness, and boxing anecdotes will be missed."

[laughter]

**Alejandro Mendez:** And the quote, "Everyone had a plan, until they get punched in the face."

[laughter]

**Alejandro Mendez:** My thanks.

[applause]

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**Councilperson Dr. Anna E. Lightfoot-Ward:** This is [unintelligible 00:17:03] for me. We just got [unintelligible 00:17:07], but to see all the [unintelligible 00:17:10], I don't think I want to [unintelligible 00:17:12].

[laughter]

[unintelligible 00:17:15] happy time, because I'm retiring next week, so I have a feeling I know the score. He's really a wonderful person. I don't know how he is with you all, but to us he's great. He's great in El Portal. I'll miss you so much, though. I met him at the airport. Is he here today? You see? [unintelligible 00:17:36]. I met his son. All I had to do was [unintelligible 00:17:42] and I went, "Are you the son of Mr." "Yes, Chief Magnusson [unintelligible 00:17:48]?"

[laughter]

I said, "Yes. I'm on the Council." "Oh, hi. How are you?" [unintelligible 00:17:53] I'm going to miss him a lot. I really am. He's a good Chief, and I [unintelligible 00:17:57] I would've been glad [unintelligible 00:17:59]. Back in the day, I would've been glad to [unintelligible 00:18:02]. Thank you so much for your service.

[applause]

**Councilperson Darian Martin:** I'll start it off by saying, "Thank you for your service." [unintelligible 00:18:20] in law enforcement. I know that our interactions have been brief, but in the interactions that we have had, I have always [unintelligible 00:18:31] by your honesty and your [unintelligible 00:18:35]. We had a conversation and I came in ready to [unintelligible 00:18:40] handle it and reassured me who was a [unintelligible 00:18:47] that we were in excellent hands. We will miss you, but I am excited for you to do whatever you'd like to do with your lovely wife and [unintelligible 00:18:55].

[applause]

**Councilperson Luis Pirela:** Thank you for your service, and enjoy your retirement and your free time [unintelligible 00:19:10]. Thank you for your service.

[applause]

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**Vice Mayor Anders Urbom:** When you came in, you were certainly on insecure ground, right? We just owe you a great debt for the calmness and the organization that you brought, specifically to the police department. You are [unintelligible 00:19:40] I had to tell you, you are a good example of [unintelligible 00:19:58] what law enforcement should be. If we had more people like you, we really honestly could not be [unintelligible 00:20:04]. You will be missed, but at the same time, [unintelligible 00:20:11]. May we all be so lucky in our job. I truly enjoy [unintelligible 00:20:17]. We will be eternally grateful for your service to the Village of El Portal. Thank you.

[applause]

**Village Manager Christia Alou:** Chief Magnusson, David, [unintelligible 00:20:33] Thank you so much for these years of service to El Portal. We went through a rigorous vetting process to find Chief Magnusson to replace a gap [unintelligible 00:20:51] here in El Portal. We had a lot of external strife. You came in and such a professional, such a [unintelligible 00:20:58], but always tough and firm.

You were able to come in and make some changes, and it really put us on solid footing. For that, I will forever be grateful. Thank you for being an ally and a friend, and for just [unintelligible 00:21:11] a really great department. We've had great resources and you really knew how to bring out the best in your team. I thank you for everything that you've done, and this is a well-deserved retirement, but I'm going to call on you sometimes, all right. Thank you

[applause]

**David Magnusson:** First of all, thank you, everybody. Thank you so much. It's a liberating feeling. It's a good feeling. Being a former boxer, I never wanted to get involved with what I persevered to be the Ali syndrome. More exactly, just hanging around maybe a fight too long. When you go back and then you say, "Well, maybe I should've left then, or I should've stopped then." I choose to follow [unintelligible 00:22:11] who said, "I'm done," and I stayed there. That's really the way I [unintelligible 00:22:19] it, but I want to declare, first and foremost, for my wife Rosie.

[applause]

You stood by me, never being overbearing. You said it yourself, "[unintelligible 00:22:37]." Then remaining close enough to be a sound counsel [unintelligible 00:22:42] Rosie, thank

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you. Having a second in command and ascending to the top spot you would **[unintelligible 00:22:53]** in and of itself **[unintelligible 00:22:55]**

Like I've always said, going back to boxing, "We're a bantam weight-sized department, but our principles for success are no different than any heavyweight department." Obviously, it seems like we're doing something right here. We're able to look within to find success. Someone who understands the agency, its history, its culture, its personnel. Sadly, you don't have to travel too far today into Dade County to find places where that's just not done right.

Go look them up yourself. Where it's one crisis after another. That wasn't **[unintelligible 00:23:36]**, it didn't happen here. I consider the manager, the mayor, the council my friends, people I admire, every one of you people I would miss. Isn't that the way it should be? Doesn't that show some stability in an organization, in a town, in a village, in a city?

Not everything needs to be incessant drama by those clambering for attention. Either with a badge or from **[unintelligible 00:24:08]**. My police department will no longer be my police department, but it's in more than great capable hands with Chief Mendez. The rank and file will be better for it. I will miss the men and women of the El Portal Police Department. They are a truly great group of professional men and women that do what they have to do to get the job done.

Yes, there's an occasional gripe here and there, but that's just me. They've really got the job done. Sometimes in tough circumstances. I'm indebted to them. I have not forgotten where I come from and I'm sure Chief Mendez has not forgotten where he's come from. That's what will make him a great chief, but the time is right, the time is here, and I will not be. This is now about the future, which is incredibly bright for my friend, Alex Mendez.

[applause]

One more feather in the cap of this group behind me, the mayor, and the Council, demanded. They asked me to swear in the new chief, and I am beyond honored. Again, when this night is over and you think about it, ask yourself where else does that happen? Not too many places. This is about you. Repeat after me, and when I say state, my name don't say, "State my name."

[laughter]

**David Magnusson:** Raise your right hand. I, Alejandro Mendez,-

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**Alejandro Mendez:** I, Alejandro Mendez,-

**David Magnusson:** -being duly sworn in-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -being duly sworn in-

**David Magnusson:** -as chief of police-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -as chief of police-

**David Magnusson:** -of the Village of El Portal,-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -of the Village of El Portal,-

**David Magnusson:** -do solemnly swear-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -do solemnly swear-

**David Magnusson:** -that I will support,-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -that I will support,-

**David Magnusson:** -protect,-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -protect,-

**David Magnusson:** -and defend the Constitution of the United States of America-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -and defend the Constitution of the United States of America-

**David Magnusson:** -and of the State of Florida,-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -and of the State of Florida,-

**David Magnusson:** -and that I will in all respects,-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -and that I will in all respects,-

**David Magnusson:** -observe the provisions of the Constitution-

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**Alejandro Mendez:** -observe the provisions of the Constitution-

**David Magnusson:** -of the State of Florida-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -of the State of Florida-

**David Magnusson:** -and the Charter of the Village of El Portal,-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -and the Charter of the Village of El Portal,-

**David Magnusson:** -and that I will faithfully discharge the duties-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -and that I will faithfully discharge the duties-

**David Magnusson:** -upon which I'm about to enter.

**Alejandro Mendez:** -upon which I'm about to enter.

**David Magnusson:** I do firmly swear that-

**Alejandro Mendez:** I do firmly swear that-

**David Magnusson:** -as Chief of Police,-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -as Chief of Police,-

**David Magnusson:** -I will faithfully serve and protect-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -I will faithfully serve and protect-

**David Magnusson:** -to the best of my ability-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -to the best of my ability-

**David Magnusson:** -all citizens regardless of race, color or creed.

**Alejandro Mendez:** -all citizens regardless of race, color or creed.

**David Magnusson:** I accept my law enforcement code of ethics-

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**Alejandro Mendez:** I accept my law enforcement code of ethics-

**David Magnusson:** -as my standard of conduct-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -as my standard of conduct-

**David Magnusson:** -while on and off duty,-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -while on and off duty,-

**David Magnusson:** -and swear to faithfully abide-

**Alejandro Mendez:** -and swear to faithfully abide-

**David Magnusson:** -and defend the same.

**Alejandro Mendez:** -and defend the same.

**David Magnusson:** Chief Mendez, congratulations

[applause]

[pause 00:27:33]

**Chief Alejandro Mendez:** Yes.

[applause]

**Chief Alejandro Mendez:** I'm excited, I'm humbled. I thank Christ, my wife, my family, my friends. Wow, look at my friends that have [unintelligible 00:28:14]

[applause]

**Chief Alejandro Mendez:** I want to say that it's going to be a tough job to follow what David's done, but he set everything up so well that it pretty much [unintelligible 00:28:29] The ground here is incredible. They value *respeto*. The [unintelligible 00:28:36] respect me [unintelligible 00:28:37] together and they understand our vision and we're well on our way. We're beyond the current and we're ahead, and this place is beautiful. Thank you very much.

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[applause]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** [unintelligible 00:28:51] The Chief has hit the ground running. The Council, we know that sometimes they don't know too much about the [unintelligible 00:29:05] will tell you sometimes it leads to those woes where it's 5:00 in the morning, I'm sending off emails. "What's going on with this? What's the status of this? The morning-- [unintelligible 00:29:23] maybe four days ago or something like that. Four, five days ago.

I get up, "What's the status of the new police stuff? What's the status of this? What's the status of the computer at [unintelligible 00:29:32]?" Right back, he's like, "Oh, well we've got two quotes for this, and we've got better quality here and we've got this." [inaudible 00:29:44] This man right here.

[applause]

[unintelligible 00:29:52] we don't want to keep you guys. Look. Chief, I heard you got a party bus that night. I heard y'all were going somewhere. See, we have to stay here, we have to argue in the day about ordinances, and bills, and we're going to be arguing over here, and y'all are going to be over there partying.

**Chief Alejandro Mendez:** Well, make it quick. Go.

[laughter]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Hold on one second, you guys. I've got something for the both of you. Come on, Chief Magusson.

[pause 00:30:20]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** We have a bunch of stuff over there, Chief. Max, most of it's for you, because you're retiring. [unintelligible 00:30:37] everything right now, because I want you guys to be able to get to your party. Just know that the majority of that stuff Chief Magnusson is all boxing-related. All boxing-related from all of us, so you're going to get home and start an early Christmas, all right? It's all boxing-related there. We also have something else there for you to get you started. We're going to do that in a second, but these two though, myself, the Village Manager, the Council, Clerk Jacobi, we wanted to give you guys and have you guys open these up right here.

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This one right here says-- Sorry. This one right here say, "Chief Magnusson, relax and unwind," from the Village of El Portal. Go ahead and start opening that up, Chief. Go ahead, it's for you. Just go ahead and open it up. This one right here says-- You guys, this'll make all much more sense when they open it. This one right here says, "Chief Mendez, get ready." With three exclamation marks. You go ahead and open that up, you're going to see what we're talking about right there.

[applause]

**[pause 00:31:36]**

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Go ahead, open it up.

**[pause 00:31:48]**

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Whiskey glasses, police inspired. Chief Magnusson, relax and unwind, go home. Chief Mendez, you **[unintelligible 00:32:08]** get ready. You not going to need it though. **[unintelligible 00:32:10]** get ready with that. See? Get ready. That's all out there. You guys, we appreciate you all. Council, do you got anything you guys wanted to say before we sign out?

**Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi:** **[unintelligible 00:32:20]**

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** To the families. Yes, **[unintelligible 00:32:22]** There you go, whiskey glasses. Chief Magnusson, unwind, lay back and relax. Mendez, **[unintelligible 00:32:34]**

[laughter]

[silence]

Oh, you want to do it outside?

[background conversations]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Y'all come up and get in the picture now.

[background conversations]

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**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Mendez family. Mendez family right here. Mendez family.

[background conversations]

**Mayor Omar C. Nickerson:** You guys can-- Everybody can stay. You don't have to leave. We're about to go and do some boring political government stuff. Y'all might get so bored.

[background conversations]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** You all might get so bored of what we've got to do.

[background conversations]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** All right. Here we go. Chief Magnusson gone?

**Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi:** Yes. Both are out front.

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** These are all for him.

[pause 00:55:04]

**Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi:** [unintelligible 00:55:14]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Yes.

[pause 00:55:15]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** All right, everybody. Much respect and much love to Chief Magnusson and incoming Chief Mendez [unintelligible 00:55:35] Next is Good and Welfare. If anybody has anything they want you want to say on [unintelligible 00:55:39] you come and see me after the record, and you can talk about anything that is on the agenda.

**Village Clerk Yenise Jacobi:** [inaudible 00:55:45]

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** We was never out of order. [unintelligible 00:55:51] Seeing or hearing none, we have anybody on Zoom with their hands up? We're good? Seeing or hearing none, we'll be moving right along to agenda item H1, the evaluation of current Village meetings. All right. This, you guys, is on the agenda, because I want to just put this out there

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and let you- to see what you guys thought about it. The perfect example is what we're going through right now, in a way. Remember we we're doing the budget hearing-- Oh, we did the whole budget. Councilperson Martin brought up a great point, which is the hybrid meetings, which are way more expensive than our regular meetings.

I was talking to Clerk Jacobi recently, and we're always trying to look for ways to cut funding and save money wherever possible.

Things are kind of starting to change, as far as COVID's concerned, right? Things are opening back up, as far as COVID's concerned, and things like that. We're kind of getting back to normal, in a way. Being that's the case, the way we've always had it is, the individuals- if they want to come to the meetings, they can come to the meetings. We saw a good example of that at the last committee meetings.

The committee meeting talk about the Airbnb, Chairperson Martin's thing in zoning committee meeting. Things are opening back up, and because of the difference in price of the hybrid meeting, which we have right now, but as we see there's nobody on Zoom as far as residents go. We have the attorney there, I think we have head of [unintelligible 00:57:23] on there, but besides that, I think that maybe we should think about not doing the hybrid anymore, because it just might not be necessary anymore. I think that in all the time we've done the hybrid with the extra costs associated with the hybrid.

Now that we've done a hybrid, I think the one that- the only time we had a big meeting about it was opening the Tot Lot. I think that was the only one. Besides that, there's usually-- Usually I look at them and they're like, "Oh, no, no. Nobody's here," or, "Nobody's here." I think that we should move to undo the hybrid. I'll look for a motion and a second, and then we can go for a vote to go back to the regular meetings. If COVID comes back full strength, if COVID pops back up and things get bad again, there's shutdowns again, then we can vote to re-implement the hybrid, if possible. That's my suggestion, but I'll open it up to the Council to see if you guys think before I ask for a motion and a second. Vice Mayor Urbom.

**Vice Mayor Anders Urbom:** [unintelligible 00:58:21] With the motion and the second, we will have- that will open this up to discussion, is that right?

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Yes, discussion now or after the motion's ended.

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**Vice Mayor Anders Urbom:** Oh. I'll move that we [unintelligible 00:58:39] the hybrid meeting format.

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Motion by Vice Mayor Urbom, Do I have a second?

**Councilperson Darian Martin:** I'll second, yes.

**Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson:** Second by Councilperson Martin. Go ahead for discussion, Vice Mayor Urbom.

**Vice Mayor Anders Urbom:** If anyone else would like to go first, I don't mind. [unintelligible 00:58:52] Okay, I'll go. The truth is, I actually think the hybrid model is helpful. Do we have data or do we have a gauge on what attendance is? I'm guessing a part is also that the attendance virtual has dropped off. I know that. I would ask for comments from the virtual attendees. We haven't had nearly the response we did in the earlier times. Looking at that, coupled with the new model of the newsletter where we are a little more clear with residents about where to find information.

The only thing I would suggest is, do we have a mechanism for residents who cannot attend a meeting in person to be able to submit questions or comments, that could be presented at a meeting on their behalf by anyone? Because I think that the YouTube channel, for example, is wonderful. Our website is awesome. [chuckles] I again put the new format of bringing everybody's attention to social media, to the website, all things pointing back to the website which points to the YouTube channel. I think that people will have the ability to get all this information and can stay informed as residents, but I do think that there are going to be people who will not be able to attend in-person who still would like to be able to present feedback in real-time for the council to consider as they take votes.

That's my only concern with getting rid of the hybrid is that there will be a scenario where residents who want to participate won't be able to attend and really do want to give information to the council for us to consider to make decisions. That's my only concern as we inevitably move towards doing away with the hybrid model. It's been great, but I agree with the argument over the cost versus that.

**Mayor Nickerson:** There's a way that they can do that. I don't know if the clerk wants to touch on that right now or not as far as submitting questions ahead of time. I know Miami Shores

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does that. Okay. I don't know. Like I said, the clerk knows better. I think it comes to big questions ahead of time.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** I can touch a little bit upon what they do. What they do is they submit ahead of time, but the audience does not. That means they know the questions, they don't participate. I think also, I'm not too sure if Miami Shores do it, but I don't know they also--

**Councilperson Martin:** I don't remember.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** You don't remember. I know that the ones that have the participation, they send it prior to the meeting, they have a deadline and then the clerk reads it out loud but the participation from the audience is different. We're like this before and it worked. It's just having them come in. The reason that we went into this was because basically, we have COVID in order, but I've been looking at the participation and it's been really low. We've got one or zero.

**Councilperson Martin:** I think [inaudible 01:02:08] situation possible [inaudible 01:02:10]

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** We have it. That was the next thing I was going to explain. We still have YouTube.

**Councilperson Martin:** Yes, that's not the problem.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** We have also Facebook, but even there, they still, there's not any questions coming in.

**Councilperson Martin:** Do they have a messenger [unintelligible 01:02:27]

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** There's a chat on the side of things.

**Councilperson Martin:** Maybe we could answer questions that way. I am a fan of getting rid of the hybrid because of this cause, but I do think because we are narrowing people's ability to participate, I think we need to think of some ways that we can amplify other routes of participation that don't cost anything and in addition to that, keeping mind our people [inaudible 01:02:58] where people can usually participate [inaudible 01:03:02] impacted them [inaudible 01:03:03] for the actual meeting.

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I think that [inaudible 01:03:07] Now that we're talking about current village meeting where 50 of the platforms needs to put forward the question on whether or not we want to have a [inaudible 01:03:23] Is that something that we can just take account?

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, we will.

**Councilperson Martin:** In Miami Gardens, they use a different agenda. I wasn't there last year [unintelligible 01:03:39] However, that consent agenda format allows me to flow rather quickly and allow us to get, a lot of counsel to get some of the administrative things off of the agenda and deal with the [inaudible 01:03:55] predictably and I think that that might be something that might be worthwhile for people here. I don't know how everybody else feels and what the job has to be [inaudible 01:04:06]

**Mayor Nickerson:** I have no problem with it. We just have to make sure that we run things the right way. It seems that we're going to- somebody said this, stick to what we decided we're going to do well.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Well, I have to [inaudible 01:04:26] say what is the specific agenda.

**Councilperson Martin:** There would be a section of the agenda that would just deal with items that were extremely administrative. If the matter had, I don't know, an extension to a contract, that was pretty formatted, they've got it collaborated. There is no reason for us to having have to discuss that. In the very beginning, the council would have access to consensus and if there's something put on the percentage of the portion that you don't agree with that you want to discuss, you can pull it for discussions.

However, what the man would do is at the very beginning, he would say most people approved that agenda and all the items would be approved [inaudible 01:05:10] items.

I don't want anybody to feel like this limits our abilities or such items. I do want to emphasize to control anything off of the consent agenda and say, "Hey, I don't think it should be on here for whatever reason or whatever."

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** We basically do that at the beginning of this meeting with [inaudible 01:05:37], right? Similar to that, but having reported as the consent section and then if you protested with the majority vote, then that item would be folded out to discussion items. Is that right?

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**Councilperson Martin:** Yes, for sure. I think part of the reason why, at least I've heard, and if residents don't feel this way, I am the first person to say when I get new information, I have no problem saying what's wrong and changing my mind. I've heard from a lot of people that the [inaudible 01:06:12] to actually participating. Let me accept that we are trying to figure out ways to really give them access.

I feel like a big way we get people access is by not coming here like, so much of your time and mental space with certain things that are not necessarily items that impact their day-to-day life in the village, it's more administrative items for the managers to be able to put that on the consent agenda and having things done. That would be a lot easier. At least I hope they would be [inaudible 01:06:43]

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** An additional discussion, but I feel like that would make a lot of sense. At the same time, if we wanted to consolidate committee meetings, combining similar committees, we talked about this in the past about being less intimidating for residents to go, I have to sit through two committee meetings and participate in the committee meeting. I want to participate in it, whereas if we combine that the residents might be more likely to show up through the committee meetings. They have an opportunity at the beginning and at the end of the meeting to stay where they want on the topics, right?

**Councilperson Martin:** [inaudible 01:07:37]

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Yes.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, I'm just going to say, yes, thank you very much, Councilperson Martin. Real quick, Vice Mayor Urbom, and thank you very much, you people. The committee meetings instead of combined, they don't have to take a long time if we don't make them take a long time. You know what I mean? When I first came on--

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** I think psychologically, the residents like, "Oh, man, it's three committee meetings when I want is the last. I'm not going to go."

**Mayor Nickerson:** Remember, okay, I understand what you're saying, but remember I changed them around so that the ones that offer the most visitors come first which is why I changed around. Planning and zonings first, and then the administration of finance is second, and then your public affairs is third. That's usually the one that people don't really come to that

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much. All that issue, guys, is not going to be-- I considered it also, but all that is that we make these meetings as long as we make these meet-ups.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** As long as we improve our messages, bring that text message thing on board so people are aware, ahead of these committee meetings because the point about the committees is if things can get resolved in a timely manner, the committee with the public truly being aware of what's being discussed and I think the consent agenda, then at that point, really makes sense because we've already hashed everything out, the public already had a chance to really hear it.

It's not like someone coming into a full council meeting to a consent agenda looking at the item thinking, "Wait a minute. When was that discussed? What are they talking about?" I know certainly, some things in the past, there have definitely been an issue of public being blindsided by so much [inaudible 01:09:17] agenda. I think as long as we have that clear competent opportunity for people to understand what's coming out our community, I think the consent agenda is definitely [inaudible 01:09:32]

**Mayor Nickerson:** Anybody else for the council?

**Councilperson Martin:** Yes.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, but [inaudible 01:09:41]

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** [inaudible 01:09:43] consent agenda. I know that [inaudible 01:09:49] you can't save time if we have minutes, where we have all the mechanisms with people to know what we're doing, and if you say we need to go out there or administer we can [inaudible 01:10:07] cooperate. They're usually generalized of regular items that we don't think that we don't necessarily have to [unintelligible 01:10:21] just try to see if I can pull up exactly what they are.

Critical items should not be consent or deny. Routine, things of that sort, all other things that we're talking about, we don't need to do-- not even a vote. According to [unintelligible 01:10:38] we don't need to vote, it's just a thing to acknowledge that the items are in the consent agenda with no need of further discussion. It says that the [unintelligible 01:10:50] of an instrument under [unintelligible 01:10:52] that enables a body to consider an approval grouping of routine items where you don't have to do it one-by-one. We do approval but as a

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group that do not require a board discussion into this and could take action with a single-- within the items. Yes, I think that is what you're going at.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** In voting to approve what is on consent [unintelligible 01:11:14] court is having truly accepted [unintelligible 01:11:17] and have established a record of having met its fiduciary for old times [unintelligible 01:11:24] responsibility, which is the city manager and the village manager is always responsible for to make sure we do it [unintelligible 01:11:30] for the right range of matters, all of which we have already occurred.

It is included in the consent as a matter of usual practice determined by each governing board, and if specially employed, usually expands over time. [unintelligible 01:11:45] town meeting next, management, finance, and committee reports. All of which are included in a packet, thank you, Councilwoman Martin, for making that clear. Circulating the directions required for the meeting.

You reported detailed actions taken by management, or committees, that are within our authority because this a management [unintelligible 01:12:09] board action. I think this is what you're getting to, village clerk. Defining the bylaws of what administrative policies which we considered as action [unintelligible 01:12:21] agenda. We're not talking about the critical things, we're talking about the things that are repetitive, more than likely. We do have a lot of repetitive things in council. I'm all for the decision. You just said you need a second, I'd be glad to be that.

**Councilperson Martin:** [inaudible 01:12:40]

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, we're going to do hybrid first and then we'll do consent agenda. We're all good.

**Councilperson Martin:** Love that.

**Mayor Nickerson:** No, it's perfect, perfect, perfect. That's my [unintelligible 01:12:57] chairperson right there, y'all.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Should I just amend my motion?

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**Mayor Nickerson:** No, let's go one-by-one. All right, so we have a motion. Do we have a second for going back to regular meetings, not having hybrid meeting in the future? We will come back to that. Madam Clerk Yenise Jacobi?

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Councilperson Martin?

**Councilperson Martin:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward? Councilperson Pirela?

**Councilperson Luis Pirela:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Vice Mayor Urbom?

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Mayor Nickerson?

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Motion passes. Back to them.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you very much. Do I have a motion for adopting the consent agenda process?

**Councilperson Martin:** From me.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Second.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Moved by Councilperson Martin, second by Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Now, is there any more discussion? How are we looking on the Zoom? Of course, of course. Of course, there's nobody.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** I just have one question. With the consent, then we could move the attorney manager and mayor reports to the front of the meeting? Bring people's attention to it. Include that in the consent, is that right?

**Mayor Nickerson:** No, no.

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**Vice Mayor Urbom:** No? Okay.

**Mayor Nickerson:** That's something totally different.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Okay. Great.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes. Remember, that's been suggested before. I'm not against it, but remember, I try to put everything in the beginning of the meeting where we have visitors.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Right.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Like when we do our reports it takes up a little bit of time, so I don't want-

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** [crosstalk] bring peoples attention to it, move on [crosstalk]

**Mayor Nickerson:** I understand, I understand. I find we've got visitors in and out [inaudible 01:14:20]

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Just to make a point on the board.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes?

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** The Vice Mayor makes a good point because I've asked in one email, [unintelligible 01:14:30] we're talking offline that the village manager's report, the village mayor's report, and the village's attorney report be placed a little bit higher. This can be [unintelligible 01:14:41] we can get it. That makes it even easier because sometimes this is like yawning time. I'm literally almost asleep by the time we get to this one because we've taken care of all the critical information that needs to come up.

If there is any way to wrap that into that, just ad-libbing at the end, even the manager seems to be sleepy at this point. I'm not putting you down, I'm bringing you up. If we could just find a way to not read that because I have noticed the village attorney generally comes with his issues in our agenda, whatever it is. I have found that the village manager's report we can always see it in the other correspondence that she generally provides to us, and it only becomes long when it's in a semester or quarter when you recap everything that you've done through that period of time.

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Now the mayor report, I like the idea of the mayor's report being somewhere upfront because this is the mayor's report. I like that to be upfront, somewhere further up where we just hear the mayor's report and he direct, or she directs the manager's report and the attorney's report as provided through the distribution. We really get to the bottom of it, and my complaint, in my village, our village is why do we take time to address things that could be addressed while we're still fresh? As opposed to just yawning at the end of the meeting? Something to consider.

**Mayor Nickerson:** No, I hear you guys and I understand. Like I said, I try to put everything if we're gonna have visitors, I try to put that at the beginning of the meeting. If we put the beginning-- Because remember you guys, the reports are more for-- they're for the entire community, but they're more for us in a way, like the manager's telling us what she's working on, what she's doing. Of course, it's for the community, but it's more for us so we kind of understand, we kind of keep a sense of what's going on for the community.

When it comes to Attorney Geller, Attorney Geller usually doesn't have a report. If he has a report, it's usually about somebody getting sued, or PBA negotiations and stuff like that, that's not on the agenda that's just usually in his report, if he usually has a report. I'm not necessarily against it. I'll look with the village clerk and we'll see if there's anywhere where we can find a place to put it to where it doesn't affect any type of visitors that we may have that day. Maybe it'll move up or down depending on what visitors we have, where we could it like that. Then to continue to change the agenda around might be something we don't want to **[unintelligible 01:17:31]**

**Councilperson Martin:** **[unintelligible 01:17:32]**

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes?

**Councilperson Martin:** I see Councilman Lightfoot-Ward's point, and I think we probably need to figure out some additional ways to get that urgent **[unintelligible 01:17:43]** stuff to the residents, but I do like the format of having the reports at the end. If we're talking about the flow I'm concerned about the flow as it relates to the attendees. When you step into this room, usually there is something on the agenda that you want to speak about. My desire would be to have that kind of opportunity sooner rather than later, and not have to unnecessarily listen to a lot of the reports **[inaudible 01:18:12]**

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, like I said-- Thank you very much, Councilperson Martin. Like I said, we'll look at it and we'll see if there's a way that we can make it flow in the right way, and we'll

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come back, maybe next week in the December meeting we'll see. Maybe we'll have a couple of suggestions. We'll see [unintelligible 01:18:28] suggestion. Sound good?

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** [inaudible 01:18:31]

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes? I can't hear you, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** In closing, it's about the closing out?

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** I'm not saying that you really need it, I'm saying what I've become accustomed to, and that is the mayor usually announced to the ladies and gentlemen of the council, you have put in your packet the reports of the manager's, and mayor, and attorney, and then just report on the items that we're trying take any business on; it's just informational. That's where the idea makes sense to me because it's just informational.

Quite frankly, everybody, we're tired and I can barely see if we have a lot of people on the line. I can, by chance, tell you they don't wait until they hear the manager's report, the mayor's report, or the attorney's report, as opposed to other [unintelligible 01:19:26] you have had the benefit of the three reports and moved that item forward. Anybody said they didn't get in their packet, they should be telling the clerk before, because this stuff comes out pretty timely.

I'm just trying to find a way that we don't even have to have them, we just have a thing that says mayor, and manager [unintelligible 01:19:47] attorney reports to the mayor. You pronounce it that you have that in your packet, and if you have any questions, I'm sure you've gotten it to the right person.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, absolutely, we could definitely do that. Like I said, we'll come back with ideas where it could possibly go. That wouldn't necessarily be part-- I think this is part of the consent agenda there because the consent agenda is this something that's totally different. You guys aren't even consenting on our report, we're just telling you, our reports. You guys aren't agreeing or disagreeing with the report, we're just telling you our report so [inaudible 01:20:16] Yes?

**Village Manager Alou:** Quite honestly, Mayor, [unintelligible 01:20:20] with the council. I don't give you my full report at the end of the night. I am tired, you all are tired, so I give you

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the highlights of anything that might stick out. My report is usually 13, 14 pages. I'm not reading you that report, but I do send it out to you before, and also, I asked in my email that you please get back to do that request. It's good [unintelligible 01:20:42] for you to understand what I'm doing on day-to-day and how progress are progressing. So yes, I keep it strictly with highlights for this forum.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, thank you very much for that. All right, any-- Okay, to vote on consent agenda yet? All right, so consent agenda, we have motion to second any last discussion? No? We're good? How are we good on Zoom, thumbs up? Of course. Now, [unintelligible 01:21:13] role call.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Role call. Councilperson Martin?

**Councilperson Martin:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward?

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Oh yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Councilperson Pirela?

**Councilperson Luis Pirela:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Vice Mayor Urbom?

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Mayor Nickerson?

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Motion passed [inaudible 01:21:33]

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you. [other speech] No.

[background conversations]

**Mayor Nickerson:** What's up?

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[background conversations]

**Mayor Nickerson:** No, I don't. He needs a pen.

[background conversations]

[pause 01:21:51]

**Mayor Nickerson:** All right you guys. Here we go, moving right along. [silence] H2 is the winter celebration. Before we get to that, let me just say when it comes to committee meetings real quick. Let me just say this really quick with you guys. If you've noticed, for the committee meetings, if there's not anything that we need to discuss, we can cancel those committee meetings. I've done it a couple of times. All right? There are others that we need to have. Just kind of keep that in mind so we don't-- Look, if we don't have to have a meeting, I won't do it. We won't do it if we don't have to have one.

All right? Yes. The regular council meetings we need to do that, we have to have a chart, we have to have a visa, we have to have lever, it says a lever and charter. That's everything except for August that we don't have the meetings. We have to have the regular council meetings, but the committee meeting, we can cancel them as we don't need them. That being said, moving right along. H2 winter celebration. Okay. I'm going to let Vice Mayor Urbom come in for a bit in a second. Let me just say this, and I want to know what you guys think about this.

We backed off of having, and I think rightfully so-- We backed off of having a lot of events, it saved us money, and we haven't had a lot of turnout for a lot of events so far. If anybody has the appetite for any type of event, I think that the holiday event should be the one that we might consider putting some oomph behind because the holiday season is usually the season where people are more jolly, people are more about family, and coming together. Just a feeling in the air during the holidays.

I just think that if we're going to consider to do any event-- I know Vice Mayor Urbom was talking about the holiday event in public affairs, and he want to move the full council, so it's why it's one here. If we want to do any event, I think we should put-- I think it would be good-- This kind of goes with how we're coming up out of COVID, how we just voted to get rid of the hybrid system. How things have been really opening up.

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The COVID numbers are down, as far as individuals getting it and passing away, and things like that which is a good thing for our country. That being said, I think that we should consider putting some muscle behind and having a holiday event. The Clerk will tell you that we used to have a holiday event, and it used to be really nice. It was outside right here in front of the village hall. We had the village hall open, but just for bathroom use, nobody was really in here.

It was outside, and plus the weather is nice around this time of the year to be outside. We would have somebody dressed. We had a Santa Claus, and they come for a half an hour, and little kids would be so excited, and they would be sitting right outside. We put a chair outside village hall, and they'd be sitting on Santa's lap and tell Santa everything they want.

We have two food trucks that would be there or something like that. A couple food trucks, one or two food trucks. Then we just have music playing in the background, and the residents loved it. I think that if we have the appetite for any type of event, it should be the winter event. I think that we should put our muscle behind the winter event, if possible. All right, [unintelligible 01:25:40] Vice Mayor Urbom and let me know what you guys think about it.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** All right. I spoke with Maribel, with the Woman's Club. I told her the discussion we had at the committee meeting was if we did two nights, kept the west side, east side, or central, however it works, to avoid crossing the major thoroughfares, then that might avoid having to create a cost of hiring the off-duty police officers. She reminded me that big part of the attraction of the holiday Carol-vanning so the kids going around in the carolers singing to the residents is that the officers are able to use their PA system, lights, and things like that to bring everybody out.

The discussion was if we did two nights and kept it to one side, making it out-- If you're doing two nights it would be \$200 per. If you did one night, where you needed two officers because you're crossing the streets, six, half dozen on the other, being the same. What I discussed with her was, if the Woman's Club put out \$200 for one officer, and either the council finds \$200 in the budget or a council member-- I certainly volunteered for \$200 out of discretionary-- you accomplish being able to pay for the officers in the tonight, do it on one night, which is less stressful on everybody, and be able to go through the entire village.

That was the discussion we came up with. In addition to that, she would say it wouldn't be that hard to raise a little bit of money, and I told her that if we passed the hat the first \$200 would go towards making the Woman's Club whole and then anything else beyond that would go towards whatever was coming out of village funds. I certainly would volunteer to give \$200

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out of my discretionary to pay for the village's portion. We're still at zero cost out of the general fund and being able to have this event.

She also reminded me that the Woman's Club really wants to do the holiday Carol-vanning because they've been a part of it for five in the last eight years, she was saying. Then that was also a huge highlight of the season last year in the middle of COVID. It really was a great thing. That was the format that we discussed. She was asking, "Are we doing those tree lighting or other things we've done in the past?" Then Ms. Maribel is just awesome. Completely deserving [unintelligible 01:28:39] year.

She had a suggestion of like a hope or a wish tree, or even to do something along the Tot Lot fence where people can tie hopes and wishes in a celebratory manner, of hopes and wishes for a new year, somewhere here on the property. In the years past, I think that they coincided the holiday Carol-vanning with the tree lighting, or whatever happened out here that took place here, and then the kids took off to the village and sing it to their residents.

If we did some events like that here in village hall, I think we could still pull off having the parade of singing children through the village. Then in terms of the cost of that, at least we would absolutely need two officers, one at the front, one on the back because crossing North Miami Avenue and Northeast 2nd Avenue is treacherous and would not be possible without police escort.

If Woman's Club is willing to pick up the tab for one officer, someone from the council, I volunteer, to pick up a tab for the other officer. She said we're going have at least 10 cars, maybe if we just say each car \$20 that right there is already-- The Woman's Club is already all this and that, we're back down to \$200. I think for a very nominal fee here we can accomplish the full scale, one night only. Which also eliminates the possibility of confusion someone one side of the neighborhood saying, "Oh, I thought it was this night," and someone on the other side of the neighborhood saying, "Oh, I thought it was that night."

So, one night only, through the whole village, make a big ruckus, having a lot of fun and I think we could still if we did something here at village hall in terms of some type of activity, just like in years' past, it would almost feel like things are back to normal in that regard. Have the big event here at village hall, and then the caravan is sent off to the village serenading the residents. That is what the discussion was between Maribel and I.

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**Mayor Nickerson:** As far as the feeling of the council, you guys-- What do you guys feel as far as what you want to [unintelligible 01:30:58] Do you guys want just the caroling, or do you want caroling something out front, or just try caroling the way we originally spoke about? What's the [unintelligible 01:31:07] to you?

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Here.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, council member?

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** I remember caroling [unintelligible 01:31:15] We had caroling before, didn't we?

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, we did.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Yes, that with the children, that- to me, that was the highlight, where we have to run around the village, so that's what the highlight was about. A lot of folks didn't even realize these children were coming, that they were singing, that the police lights go on. Now, are you talking about putting the-- What's that thing? Putting the crown on my tree? Which I don't buy Christmas trees anymore, putting the crown on my tree. My birthday is December the 20th, my husband is December 21st, so we're like little kids when it comes to someone coming around and doing caroling.

Mayor, I'm not trying to get rid of that, that was fun. That was a lot of fun. I just wish I was [unintelligible 01:32:00] That was a lot of fun. I'm glad it's being talked about now, and not just springing it on us. Do we want to stay here at city hall? I don't know about that. I think one night of caroling was tremendous. It's what people talked about down until March. I mean that was really-- I became 12 years old again. Thanks, mayor, I want to see it done, that thing.

That was fun. They just showed up. They really know you're coming carrying all this stuff and all of a sudden everybody started coming out their houses, they started turning on their lights, and we just had a wonderful time. Thank you so much. I'm glad this something we'd do.

**Mayor Nickerson:** [unintelligible 01:32:40] Maybe we can get Santa Clause on the fire truck.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** [unintelligible 01:32:46] wife.

**Mayor Nickerson:** [laughs] [unintelligible 01:32:48] wife. Everybody good with that? You guys good with carolings? Good with that? All right, so there's nothing that we have to vote

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on when it comes to that, you guys, because the Woman's Club is paying for one police officer, and then the second one will come from the discretionary. We don't have to vote on that. Unless we don't want to use Vice Mayor's discretionary and we can take \$200 out of the contingency, which is a little under \$80,000, you guys.

We're talking like **[unintelligible 01:33:14]** about a little under \$80,000 is like \$70,000 something. The Vice Mayor Urbom uses the discretionary. We have the caroling, and we're going to move forward with the caroling, and that will be that. Any last comments about the caroling, guys, or winter celebration? What? The date of the caroling is going to be decided by the Woman's Club. Do you know the date?

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** No, as long as we're clear on a budget and we have a clear path to go ahead with planning, then we will coordinate a date with the Woman's Club. That's going to require calculus and trigonometry.

**Mayor Nickerson:** It's all good. All right, so we're good on this. We'll get back with-- The Vice Mayor will get back with us with the date, you guys, and he'll send it to the clerk, and she'll get it out to us, and we'll go from there. All right, any last question or comments about this? You guys **[unintelligible 01:34:16]** all good, thumbs up? Next is resolution ordinances. Bring up Carlos Penin. Bring over Carlos Penin over there while we're doing this. Is Attorney Geller in there also? Bring Attorney Geller over also. Madam Clerk.

**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** I'm here, mayor. I've been listening. Mayor, do you hear me? Hello?

**Mayor Nickerson:** We're turning you up, Attorney Geller, we're going to be with you in a second.

**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** I've been listening. I've heard everything that's been said.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Of course, my brother, I wouldn't even doubt. All right. Attorney Geller, I don't know if you have the agenda in front of you, or it might be hard if you don't have it in front of you. Maybe I will get the clerk to do that.

**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** I'm sorry, say that again, mayor.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Do you have the agenda in front of you now?

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**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** Yes, sir.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Can you read the resolution I-1?

**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** All right.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Or would you like the clerk to read?

**Village Attorney Geller:** No, that's fine. The resolution to the village council [inaudible 01:35:25] South Florida [inaudible 01:35:27] professional services, including public work, providing [unintelligible 01:35:34] of titles, providing for an effective date.

**Mayor Nickerson:** All right you guys, so this was on the [unintelligible 01:35:40] when we back in a company who's the one that is in charge of CAP, he's also-- Did Carlos Penin come over also? Mr. Penin, are you there? Can you hear us?

**Carlos A. Penin:** Yes, Mayor, I'm here.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you. At first, last month we had one proposal and it was the building department and put works in one, and that was separated out, and now we have two separate proposals, so things are a little bit more clear for the council. I am going to turn over to Manager Alou, and then we'll have Mr. Penin chime in as the council has questions and comments, along with [unintelligible 01:36:23]

**Village Manager Alou:** Thank you, mayor. Yes, since I know about these proposals that was presented by [unintelligible 01:36:31] government to the village, for our municipal services related to the building department, as well as public works department. [unintelligible 01:36:43] as you all know, played with the staffing issues at this time of coronavirus salaries-- No matter what the salary [unintelligible 01:36:53] place staff and physicians. We've had a long-standing relationship with CAP.

They always provide us fill-in staff until we're able to find staff, so we've approached CAP about taking over our building department completely. [unintelligible 01:37:10] we are running 70%. Our building official, who is here, Mr. Martinez, runs the building department and have typically had one staffer who was an actual employee of the government office held in that position. Everything else was a service provided by CAP.

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If this proposal would take into effect the fact that we would need to have a full-time building clerk, and then some fill-in as needed. It would be wrapped up for staffing to include another building clerk, or at a part-time position, until such time that the department is [unintelligible 01:37:56] With that, we have reviewed the proposal. Mr. Penin separated out the proposals, public works being on its own and the building department is on its own and it emulates what those fees would be for.

Mr. Penin has already filled with a couple of questions, but he is available for any questions, as well as our CFO who is here. Our Interim CFO, Chris Wallace who has also reviewed the contract as well, and advised me on those throughout. If anyone has any questions, we're here to [unintelligible 01:38:34]

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, we're opening up to the counsel, the questions, right now. First, let me ask this question. I know this was something that I think was on everybody's mind. We look at this and we see 100%. That 100%, I think we asked this last time I'm not sure, but that 100%-- Correct me if I'm wrong, but that 100% is pretty much given to-- It goes to CAP for the building department services. Anything that's leftover is spent on El Portal's building department.

Mr. Penin, you might be able to chime in. I think it's one of the things that we were asking earlier, whereas it says 100%, but that 100% doesn't necessarily go like CAP's bank account. That 100% is to be spent on building of the El Portal building department. It's just that it goes to CAP because CAP will be running the entire building department of El Portal, but that money will be spent on the building department of El Portal.

**Carlos A. Penin:** Mayor, if I may, this is Carlos Penin. Thank you very much for the opportunity. I wish I was there I would have enjoyed the festivities earlier on today. 100% of the revenue is spent on 100% of the El Portal's building department because it is our commitment to the village to provide all of your needs to run the department at the levels of service that we have discussed and that we will continue to do. It's going to be just a matter of improving things even further.

We proposed to provide electronic plan review. There is money in that 100% allocated for scanning services. We've allocated \$12,000 of the revenues that come into the building department to be used for that and all of these things are for the further improvement of the village's building department. We will provide whatever hardware and software is necessary

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to run an effective and an efficient and especially a transparent building department. All of that is taken into account. Thank you.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you. Council.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Mr. Mayor.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, Councilperson.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Question and it's very simple. I have several questions. [inaudible 01:41:28] the village attorney gave us many advice in terms of what this proposal - what's the real [inaudible 01:41:42] someone spending or getting 100% or whatever which tells me-- this is what it tells me and I could be wrong that whatever anything that goes wrong where we would have to be concerned about, or the village manager would have to be concerned about.

We don't have to be concerned about it and that this person, the building person, is working part-time and that bothered me a little bit. I'm giving you 100%. I got a part-time person and I've got to check here for maintenance, full-time maintenance technician, who's got to be really skilled. I don't have a problem with \$45,000 going to that person. I have a problem with 126,000 minus the 45,000, that's what I have a problem with. Also, and Attorney Geller, you can come in whenever you like. I'm curious as to-- this was bid, right? This was a bid project, right or no and should it have been? That's the first question.

**Village Attorney Geller:** Let me answer that one first if I might, councilwoman. It was not competitively bid for the additional services. My understanding if I-- going back many years I think there was some competitive proposal when CAP was first hired. As I said last time you have an existing contract with CAP and there is no legal requirement that you put out some competitive requirement for the additional services to be rendered.

It's not to say you couldn't, but where you have a valid contract and all you're doing is choosing to expand the scope of services, I don't see any legal requirement that you have to put out a completely new bid when you're in contract with this company already and you're adding on to the contract.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** All right, with that said. Carlos, are you there? This is Carlos, right?

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**Mayor Nickerson:** [inaudible 01:44:14]

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Are you there?

**Mayor Nickerson:** Mr. Penin, can you hear?

**Carlos A. Penin:** Yes. No, I was muted for a while there I can't control that button. Yes, hi, councilwoman. How are you?

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** [inaudible 01:44:29] I had the same question. I just want to be [unintelligible 01:44:33] 100%, are we the first one?

**Carlos A. Penin:** No, ma'am. We work in other municipalities where we have 100% and it's all based on the level of service and the amount of staff that we allocate to the client. In this case, we are providing 100% of the staff and we have, in addition to that, added this allocation of \$12,000 of the revenues to be utilized for scanning services. That's an annual number and like I mentioned a few minutes ago, we are providing all of the computer. In other words all the hardware and the software to bring the building department to the next level.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** [inaudible 01:45:29] provided toward the report on the activity including the fact that goes with that report?

**Carlos A. Penin:** Yes, ma'am that's correct.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** You know where I'm going, right? I've got my former city manager's head on. That's all I'm doing. I have calmed down quite a bit after doing a little research on this. If I sound like I'm a little bit nicer than before with others, myself and I was embarrassed. Bear with me. I've calmed down quite a bit on this one. This needs to be said. In so far as [crosstalk]-

**Carlos A. Penin:** I do appreciate it, ma'am.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** -nothing to appreciate. What other cities do you provide this public works service or this kind of contract?

**Carlos A. Penin:** We provide public works in South Bay. We provide-- which is in Palm Beach County. We provide public works services in-- I'm trying to think. What else? I have one of my managers on the line as well I don't know. Carlos del Pino, are you on the line? I

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know that we provided for the city of Fort Lauderdale. I know that we provided for the city of Miami as well under hourly contracts.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward: [inaudible 01:46:53]**

**Carlos A. Penin:** Okay, I appreciate it. Thank you, ma'am.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward: [inaudible 01:47:00]** more wanting to be privatized. **[unintelligible 01:47:08]**

**Carlos A. Penin:** The advantage is of outsourcing the department is that we can bring the expertise that you would need on a daily basis. For example, let's talk about the collapse of the tower. The unfortunate accident that that occurred. We have a number of our employees that are certified as structural engineers in Miami-Dade County that have experience in high-rise buildings.

I'm not suggesting that El Portal has such structures, but any structure that is that falls within the what is called the 40-year recertification, we certainly have experience on that within our company. Any other exclusive or complicated issues, we can address that within the scope of our services. This is something that if you had your own department, you would have to go outside of your department to find some of this expertise.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** That's the answer I'm looking for. [crosstalk]

**Carlos A. Penin:** Yes, you're also covered from the point of view of vacations and sick and leave and so forth. All of that is covered because we have a level of service that we will maintain in the village.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** I understand. Your maintenance technician, would it be fair to ask if you're looking at the **[unintelligible 01:48:48]** full-time worker?

**Carlos A. Penin:** I'm sorry, ma'am, I didn't hear the question.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward: [inaudible 01:48:55]** the maintenance technician, at least 45,000? **[unintelligible 01:49:03]** that person is going to be one staff here in the building doing what needs to be done and I've already done the research on them and I said I suspect you're seeing someone with much skills.

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**Carlos A. Penin:** Yes, madam manager had given us the scope of services for that individual and we have submitted that same scope of services in our proposed. In other words, there was a job description for that individual and that's what's included in the proposal.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** It's nice to know.

**Carlos A. Penin:** I'm not sure if that answers your question. I'm sorry. I'm sorry, ma'am?

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** [inaudible 01:49:51] at least 45,000. That is the question. Now, imagine you can answer that if you like but I'm asking the company because he just told us \$126,000 for this add-on. If you're going to have a real maintenance tech and not a janitor, that's the lowest of the salary in Florida. That's why I'm asking that question. If that's proprietary, I'm sure the attorney will let me know that's not to be exposed but that's public fund so I'm thinking that that ought to be exposed.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Mr. Penin, do you understand the question?

**Carlos A. Penin:** I'm not sure that I do. I can tell you that we have a human resources director that makes sure that we pay the wages according to the State of Florida. We've been in business for 32 years we don't take anything like that lightly obviously, but I couldn't tell you right now how much money that individual is going to be paid. To be honest with you, we have not hired that individual because this contract has been in conversation for a while. That's the best I can offer at this moment in time. Everything we do, we do by the book. You don't survive if you don't do it properly.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** [inaudible 01:51:29]

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, that was previously [unintelligible 01:51:41]

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** I just wanted to clarify that. Other than that, Mr. Mayor, I'm pretty satisfied with probably just [unintelligible 01:51:53] the information this evening regarding that I just don't want to take advantage. I want a real mechanical technician here so that when something comes up [unintelligible 01:52:05] this person building, this new inspector I have a few questions for that too. Is this a Florida licensed engineer because it just simply says public works officer engineer. Is this a certified licensed--

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**Carlos A. Penin:** It would be a licensed engineer anytime that there is a license requirement. We have a staff person who's been performing these services and he is a professional engineer. We think that there are some duties that may be performed by an engineer other than a professional engineer which is a PE, a professional engineer. We think that if another engineer can perform it as long as you get the level of service that you need and performed under the-- The state of Florida allows for our engineers to work under professional engineers and that's perfectly fine. What we can guarantee you is that it will be done by the book.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Do you know if [unintelligible 01:53:12] won't be sued because we didn't have the right staff person.

**Carlos A. Penin:** That won't be the case going forward, madam councilwoman.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Last but not least, man, this one is scary. This is the only proposal I've ever read that just made me think about it a little bit longer than I needed to. I don't have any other questions or comments except to ask that we get quarterly reports of the activity and the stats that included the threat and risk of what was taking place in terms of public works in the building plan and review inspection services. With that, I'm good. What do you think, madam manager? Is that helpful?

**Village Manager Alou:** Absolutely, that's helpful. Having done [unintelligible 01:54:11] for the public works director, I was able to come up with this job. I know what this job entails. Having to do [unintelligible 01:54:21] others, I know that they have that level of expertise. When you discuss this [unintelligible 01:54:35] say look, you're going to need a certified engineer for certain things and other things you may not need that level. We are able to provide all of it. With this contract, it gives us an opportunity to have someone at that level at a salary that we are able to provide [unintelligible 01:54:51]

**Councilperson Luis Pirela:** What's the duration of this arrangement? What's the duration moving forward?

**Village Manager Alou:** It doesn't say.

**Carlos A. Penin:** Madam manager, it is tied into the original contract. I'm out of town as you know and I don't have the paperwork here but it's tied into the original contract. Maybe Joe-- Oh, okay good. Thank you.

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**Village Manager Alou:** [inaudible 01:55:33] and this contract is three years renewable [unintelligible 01:55:38], et cetera. This contract was entered into on March 27th, 2019. We're coming up to renewal or we can extend it and see how we feel about the relationship, but I think it will give us an opportunity to take a look at how we [unintelligible 01:56:02] for six months. I'm hoping that you're able to possibly just maybe you give us a 12-month renewal to see how things go. If we're satisfied with the relationship **Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** [unintelligible 01:56:14] right now, we'll proceed. [crosstalk] that's all I need. Thank you.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you very much, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Let me just say that the agreement can be terminated by us, you guys with 10 days notice and it's a non-exclusive agreement also. Which means that we're not bonded just to them [unintelligible 01:56:35] Before I open up to everybody else whoever wants to speak next in the council, I think they'll speak next.

Let me just say that you guys, first of all, just really quickly, the money that's going to be paid to them, first of all, is not coming from the budget because the building department pays for itself as far as where it gets in. That's how that gets paid. As far as the public works situation you guys myself and the manager have been working tirelessly, [laughs] I've been working tirelessly to get that payment approved through some of those funds that I've been, I'm always talking about I'm always bringing in funds and funds get that approved, the funds coming in so that won't even come out of the budget.

All of you everything you see here on these contracts or that we're looking at for this type of agreement none of this stuff is coming out of budgetary money. Just keep that in mind. The building department stuff will come out of building department fees and the public works things and myself and the manager we're almost there. It's going to come out of the money that we're getting from Washington DC.

**Village Manager Alou:** When that money runs out?

**Mayor Nickerson:** When that money runs out we can't do our budget when that money runs out we also have other funding though that we have that can be useful. You got to understand that we have money already, we have money from the [unintelligible 01:58:07] development and things like that that we can use for those apartments and stuff like that but that money we're not even using money that we could possibly use and other monies that we could possibly use.

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We might be using those monies because we're trying to use money from the government that is coming in where we're getting amounts to where we can't use that for the big enough projects that we have except the sewer because it's not enough money to cover everything. So even though it's like 1.2 million, it's not enough money to cover everything. Now, if you think 1.2 million and we have other stuff that we want to do but even out of 1.2 million if this is a hundred and-- what is it a year hundred twenty-something thousand? That's a lot of years.

**Village Manager Alou:** Also, may I add [unintelligible 01:58:56] we really understand the public works. I know the chair of public works maybe knows this, but everything is from work and this is the department that I don't understand how we got funded there [unintelligible 01:59:08] department really need it. It's critical to all of the infrastructure changes that are coming down the line.

There's so much happening in the village as we're changing and evolving, and public works is [unintelligible 01:59:24] so that we are moved along in the proper way. We need to have qualified people. It's not a matter of just picking up trash. We really have to have more services committed to the public works functions and services that we provide. This is the way we can take a look at these things and hopefully as time progresses and then we build up our departments and our services, we can address the funding public works [unintelligible 01:59:57]

**Mayor Nickerson:** We have these developments coming, I remember you had these developments coming in, also you guys were getting a lot of money for permits and stuff like that. We have these developments, once development's being closer to opening up, the skateboard park, the restaurant, and stuff like that, more money will be coming in also. Anybody? Who's next for comments or questions? Councilperson [unintelligible 02:00:16]

**Councilperson Martin:** Martin, brother.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Councilperson Martin, sorry about that.

**Councilperson Martin:** Don't worry. I have a question, and it's for the CFO and the manager. What are the projected goals for building strategies for 2022? What is that number?

**Interim CFO Wallace:** I'm sorry, [unintelligible 02:00:37] client's office. It's a good question, and whatever projection, I will tell you I have almost 40 years of this. It projects building permit revenue is a crapshoot at best. If you'd asked me during [unintelligible]

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**02:00:53]** building permit, I would've thought building permits was a **[unintelligible 02:00:58]** but they did the opposite, where they put that up wherever they **[unintelligible 02:01:02]**

The problem with forecasting the revenues, and expenses associated with it, is it's pretty volatile. We could be chasing the tails sometimes. That's why a lot of cities have contracted with companies like CAP because they can ramp up or pull down the activities they need to do it. You're not supposed to make money off these build permits directly. **[unintelligible 02:01:30]** said that, but if that wasn't enough, a couple of years ago, the legislature actually quantified what would always certainly because you can't make money off the building permits you'd have to use for your village permit services.

This year, in the **[unintelligible 02:01:49]** budget we isolated the building, we took the building department equity out of **[unintelligible 02:01:54]** special revenue fund, and we forecasted the revenue at \$213,000. **[unintelligible 02:02:03]** my head on that, it may be more or less than that. The thing about an agreement like CAP, where we're getting the permit revenue. Let's say there was excellent revenue there, and there was more revenue than expenses, and you couldn't figure out a way to spend in the building department.

You'd probably have to lower your building fees **[unintelligible 02:02:25]** that is actually reduce the **[unintelligible 02:02:29]** refund, which would be a nightmare. The excess permit **[unintelligible 02:02:33]** Here the vendor is taking a risk. They have to staff up, so they've got to put a permit **[unintelligible 02:02:41]** all the time. They have to develop some building inspection and plan review time. As the activity drops off, they still have to provide that service, which means they can be upside down on a contract, as well as they can be over on this contract.

It really doesn't matter how much revenue you generate because they're going to get it, and they may-- If there's a lot of permit activity, they're going to ask for more man-hours, as far as plan review and building inspections rather, and they will profit from that. The banks, they will also still have to provide that service for you to be able to **[unintelligible 02:03:19]** someone that's trying to counter because you never know who's going to walk in **[unintelligible 02:03:23]** They're at risk of having to provide that.

**Councilperson Martin:** That was a really good summation of both sides, and I appreciate that **[unintelligible 02:03:32]** [crosstalk] Yes, **[unintelligible 02:03:36]** understand it. With that being said, I do think we have to trust our manager's judgment and madam manager, your

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opinion, when you consider all the things you will be receiving, the uncertainty associated with this endeavor. Do you think that this is a worthwhile contract, **[unintelligible 02:03:56]**

**Village Manager Alou:** Yes, I do. **[unintelligible 02:03:58]** and the thing is, what's happening here in the village. I know the quality of work that CAPs provide. I appreciate CAP, they've always been there for us, but we need to ramp up our services, and moving past that project is in fact tremendous endurance, whereby we are so far behind on handling the business **[unintelligible 02:04:23]** there's so many things we need to do to provide a better service. Also, we're **[unintelligible 02:04:29]** You have to have your permits issued within 30 days. Many times, we haven't been able to do that because we just don't have the manpower, we don't have the skill or the resources to do so.

I think it's the best option for us. I would review it, and I think a quarterly report, I like that idea for both departments. Public workers works as well as building department themselves **[unintelligible 02:04:58]** if this is working correctly. Then I will address that as well, but I believe in them, I really do believe that this is our best option with the services that we need to provide.

**Councilperson Martin:** Thank you. I appreciate both of you guys for those comments. **[unintelligible 02:05:14]**

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you very much, Councilperson Martin, appreciate that. Question or comments?

**Councilperson Pirela:** No. I have all the questions answered, actually. Mr. Wallace, manager, we're talking and sent an email with the questions they had. Mr. Wallace just clarified a lot of uncertainties that were there, as far as the money, and the over-- The extra money or whatever they could-- the department could generate. What is that we can with our money, and if there was any possibility of CAP doing something with that money, and we couldn't.

Just because they're the providers, the third-party service, or whatever. That being said, I think it's-- Again, just by providing, and enhancing, the "department" like the manager said, with much needed improving there, having an engineer, especially with a project or awaiting if the village implement like that is a good improvement right there. It's a good job, definitely.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Absolutely. As Councilperson Martin was asking a great question. Sorry for not calling you **[unintelligible 02:06:47]** so much going on in my mind. As Councilperson

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Martin asked a great question. Just keep in mind you guys, we have a lot of new developments starting to come and open. The church here, there's going to be the restaurant, the skateboard park is now open, [unintelligible 02:07:02] development building is now open.

As they start to build these developments, they will have to start coming and pulling permits and paying permit fees. What was it, madam manager? Once we put the permit fee schedule when we did the whole permit fees because they didn't have what we needed before. Once we did that-- The day after those permit fees went into place, [unintelligible 02:07:25] came over to checkup-- How much was it?

**Village Manager Alou:** It was pretty significant.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Pretty significant, right? These developments, we have a lot of developments starting to go on, so there's going to be a lot more. I'm just saying to say that I thank Councilperson Martin for her question, which was great, is that I think things will be looking more sunshine than rain over the next couple of years. I think so.

**Councilperson Pirela:** I'm sorry, [unintelligible 02:07:53] question is about the financial status. Every few months I had asked the manager if they had any cheat sheets or financial statements talking about [unintelligible 02:08:04] on a monthly basis, and see how it's all just been. That would be great. If you have [unintelligible 02:08:13]

**Interim CFO Wallace:** To be clear on how that actually works. The money will come in-- You will book that money; you'll be in charge of the money. Basically, you'll have to invoice for what we collect, and we will pay that. You have to account for the revenue and the expense of it. The money will come in, and they'll know how much comes in because they'll be doing most of the initial paperwork on it. It'll go into your bank, and you'll turn around and write them a check, so you'll be in charge of that.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you very much Councilperson Pirela, Councilperson Martin, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. [unintelligible 02:08:49] Vice Mayor Urbom.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Yes. I think most questions have been answered. I do shockingly have two remaining questions. My first is for Mr. Wallace, my second is for Mr. Penin. Mr. Wallace, would you think that this contract, with the addition of the services because I know we have an existing contract, would it complicate, or would it simplify, or are you neutral? What will happen in terms of the ability to successfully accomplish things going into correct line items,

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specifically as it pertains to future audits? I know that we've had a huge part of our take in the past has been someone who would be able to correctly place things in the correct lineup, kind of from the beginning, without having to be fact-checked or proofread essentially. In that regard, do you think that this activity we're proposing would complicate or simplify that process?

**Interim CFO Wallace:** Regarding the building department style this will simplify it greatly. Regarding the public side of it, we will simply it in some regards as far as I don't have to deal with payroll, so that's one. We still have expenditures that will be making on about the work [unintelligible 02:10:15] but sometimes you might have to dip into that like [unintelligible 02:10:18] the stuff and project [unintelligible 02:10:19] or whatever. That would be possibly with regards of [unintelligible 02:10:25] I don't think anything complicated [unintelligible 02:10:29] be somewhat complicated from time to time.

I think how things with COVID and the county system and it's slowly being cleaned up. Neither of these are complicated, I don't think. I think [unintelligible 02:10:45] one side of the building department will be simplified. On the board side it will probably have some more managerial oversight, the public works [unintelligible 02:10:56] engineer, which you don't [unintelligible 02:10:59] has in addition to the [unintelligible 02:11:02] person that's doing the day-to-day stuff. I think that's probably going to be better, not worse.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Very glad to hear that. Mr. Penin, once again, thank you for joining us this evening. We appreciate your time tonight being available to answer questions. My question is about, in all this to do with the 100% aspect of this. My question is, will the village have the ability to upgrade equipment systems, things to this effect within our department here in the village, or at the end of this contract with all of those updates essentially be residing in your facilities?

Where if we did choose to end the contract safe, the end of the second three-year term, where we would then be having had updated all of this equipment, but then not having the benefit of actually making use of it should we leave the contract? I'm just curious to know how that distribution works. I know that a great deal of equipment already resides to your facilities, but I also know that some of the discussion with digitization, and things of this effect, have to do with some of the equipment that we have here. As the train passes, if I could just get a better understanding of what opportunities the village would have in upgrading equipment, if any.

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**Carlos A. Penin:** Thank you for the question, Mr. Vice Mayor. The services that's provided is what's called the software as to service, or service that would include the software already. For that reason, we don't charge any additional monies for software that cost a lot of money, to begin with. The second thing is, they cost a lot of money to maintain. There's constant upgrades to the software that we cover that cost by providing the village the service. We can, and have discussed, putting a computer and two monitors to do the plans review electronically.

I think that we will work with the manager to see where the space is, but again, that would be equipment that we would bring in. At some point in time down the road, these things start losing their value, but if it was something that you would want to keep at the village we can certainly talk about it. I don't know that after two or three years this equipment, that is constantly being updated by the manufacturers really has a whole lot of value. The data is what's important, and the village keeps 100% of the data, it's all yours.

We will keep it in our cloud, and there is a redundancy for you to keep it there as well, in case you have any kind of public information request. That's pretty much how it would work. Our inspectors are going to use tablets to go out and do inspections. We have those tablets. If there was a desire to keep some tablets, we could certainly accommodate that. By the time you look at that, one or two years down the road, we're going to be replacing them anyways because they keep getting better. The cameras keep getting more and more sharper, and so forth, and so on. We don't see that as a big deal. If there was a need on behalf of the village to want to keep some of that.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Yes. That all makes sense. Essentially, the largest part of this is the software, and if we were using your software, or using someone else's software, the cost essentially would be similar, our database is still accessible to us. That actually raises a third question I had not considered, and I don't know why I didn't consider this. Could you speak a little bit to-- I think you're probably better prepared than we would be on our own.

I think this is certainly a net positive for affirming this contract, but if you could please address a little bit of how you would be prepared against something like a cyber attack or ransomware, this type of activity. As you mentioned, the cloud, that was the very first thing I thought it was, "Okay, how susceptible are we to being held hostage by someone who would have access to that system?" Could you speak a little bit to--

**Carlos A. Penin:** Yes, I'd be happy to. Thank you for the question. A couple years back, that was never an issue. When we renewed our insurance two years ago it became-- our business

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insurance if you would, it became a topic, which we bought cyber security insurance for our company that includes covering all of our clients and any of the data that we have. We have insurance for cyberattack throughout the company.

We have an IT director that works across the board in the company from one extreme to the other. We can offer his services if there was any concerns of a cyber-attack. As recent as this morning, he asked me to change my password because it was too old and-- he wasn't talking about me he was talking about my password and suggested that I go ahead and change it.

We are very vigilant of these attacks constantly. It's extremely important to- as you very well pointed out, to have the tools and to have the insurance Arizona missions. Loss of business. There's so many of these things out there that are important. We as a corporation with-- We've now hit the 230 mark as far as number of employees, are very, very concerned, but also very confident that we are vigilant on it. Will it ever happen? We pray not, and we try to do our best to prepare ourselves for that too.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Very good. It's certainly reassuring. On that, if I think about the cyber aspect of this, I believe that the redundancy that you're talking about in terms of us having the data here on-site as well. I think an effective redundancy actually negates the threat because they can hold one system hostage, but if you've got everything duplicated then they can have that and keep it for all we care, and we can move on with the rest of the backup.

**Carlos A. Penin:** That's correct.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** How often would we be backing this data up to our site here?

**Carlos A. Penin:** It's up to you. There's some municipalities that want to backup every day, and they do, and there's some that wish to back up once a month, and they do. It's just your level of confidence and how often you would like to do it. There's no cost on your end or on hours to do it. It could be set up as no different than you would set up a backup in your cell phone. Remind me every 30 days, if you wish, or you can do it daily if you wish as well. At seven o'clock in the morning, or at seven o'clock at night, or somewhere in between.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Very good. Thank you for hearing my one question [unintelligible 02:19:15] and again, thank you for your time, Mr. Penin.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you very much [crosstalk]

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**Carlos A. Penin:** My pleasure.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Do you have any comments on this? Do we have any **[unintelligible 02:19:24]** hands up? We're good? Any last comments or questions council before I ask for a motion to be seconded? We're good? Can I have a motion to approve-- Yes, a motion to approve resolution I-1? Moved by Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward, do we have a second?

**Councilperson Pirela:** I'll second.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Second by Councilperson Pirela **[unintelligible 02:19:48]**

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Roll call, Councilperson Martin?

**Councilperson Martin:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward? Councilperson Pirela?

**Councilperson Pirela:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Vice Mayor Urbom?

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Mayor Nickerson?

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Motion passes five to none.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you very much, Madam. You guys did a wonderful thing today, as far as-- this is very good, you guys, as far as keeping retention, where we don't lose somebody that we don't have like right now we're going through a court report. You guys have no idea how many court report recalls I get every weekend, I'm like-- You know what I'm saying? All the time. I get court report recalls all the-- I got six this weekend. We don't have to worry about-- Just figure out what's **[unintelligible 02:20:33]** All right you guys, going on to the reports. Madam manager, your report?

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**Carlos A. Penin:** Thank you very much and good night to all of you. Thank you for this vote of confidence.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Mr. Penin, thank you very much. We appreciate you.

**Carlos A. Penin:** Look forward to serve.

**Village Manager Alou:** [unintelligible 02:20:50]

**Mayor Nickerson:** He was standing [unintelligible 02:20:53]

**Village Manager Alou:** Yes, [unintelligible 02:20:55]

**Mayor Nickerson:** We got [unintelligible 02:20:55] We appreciate you, man. We appreciate you. Thank you. Of course.

**Carlos A. Penin:** [laughs] Thank you.

**Mayor Nickerson:** I was talking about his suit over there. Thank you Mr. Penin, I'll see you at the next league event.

**Carlos A. Penin:** Yes, on December 2nd.

**Mayor Nickerson:** December 2nd.

**Carlos A. Penin:** Yes, sir.

**Speaker 1:** [unintelligible 02:21:13] I just wanted to go and add one more thing about security that's very important [unintelligible 02:21:26] just recently that a couple of weeks [unintelligible 02:21:32] on how to defend every employee, defend ourselves on spam, suspicious emails, phone calls, people walk into the office. I think because that's the way we get [unintelligible 02:21:47] The human practice is very important for not just the faculty, but [inaudible 02:21:54] Just wanted to add that.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you very much. I feel secure already. All right. Take care, [unintelligible 02:22:01] Have a wonderful night. Thank you, thank you for coming. Thank you. Madam manager.

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**Village Manager Alou:** I was already [unintelligible 02:22:09] November 16th, and we're only halfway through the month, so my report is very short for this month, or my report is very short at this moment, but it won't be short for the month. I will provide you the full report later in the month, but as you are aware [unintelligible 02:22:26] this month I've been mostly concerned and concerned with staffing buildings, buildings department, complaints, and concerns from residents, as well as COVID enforcement complaints and concerns to the citizens.

I am working with the staff we do have. Trying to address where we have laxed and the passage of this item is going to be so tremendous for us so that we can now work them and [unintelligible 02:22:58] staff the departments that are critical to the work that we do. I'm going to defer the rest of my report to a later date, but I will be providing that to you all members of the council at the end of the month. [unintelligible 02:23:14] my report. If you have any questions, please feel free. I appreciate that everyone has [unintelligible 02:23:19]

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you very much, madam manager, I appreciate that. Let me just say - I want to say a couple of things to you guys. As you guys know, the last couple of meetings I haven't done my report because the meetings ran late. It's not like it's early right now, but I do want to say a couple of things and I will try to always spread my reports out amongst numerous meetings, [unintelligible 02:23:40] as well. I do want to say really quickly that with the past couple of days, a couple of days ago madam clerk, one of our former officers did pass away over the weekend, Mr. Romero Juarez.

He was always smiling, madam manager, whenever you would see him. He was such a nice guy. He was always smiling, and he has a baby on the way. Has a baby on the way, used to work here and he just passed away a couple of days. Just passed away a couple of days. It was interesting because I got that call late at night, and you know what they say when you get that call late at night, it's never good news. Just want to say our hearts go out to him and his family, his not even child who's not even born yet.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Born in December.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Born in December.

**Village Manager Alou:** Thank you. Yes, I was [unintelligible 02:24:42] and not looking [unintelligible 02:24:43] that was a hard hit for the department. Officer Juarez was a very gentle and kind officer. Very dependable. Everywhere he's so well-liked and respected. Always

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very professional and carried himself very well. I'm very sorry for his family and he's unborn child. Prayers for his family.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Madam Clerk?

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** Yes, I've been thinking-- I'm actually still in shock. I don't know. I've worked with a lot of the cops, and closely with them, and talk to them, and he was one that he always remained above the drama, above it all, respectful. He came he did his job, and he left, and he was nice to everyone. It's a big loss. It's a big loss. His family and his unborn child. I send my prayers hopefully everything goes--

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you Madam Clerk.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** I'm sorry for your loss.

**Mayor Nickerson:** It's a lot that goes on. It's interesting because we were up here doing before with the Chief Magnusson and Chief Mendez, myself and the Clerk we were going back and forth police officers to other police officers. We were like, "Should we mention it? Should we not?" It's a hard decisions, you guys, you've got to-- This stuff is not easy. I do want to say that I will be talking about this more a little bit next month, but keeping the same kind of like something now. I've been going to a significant amount of funerals for El Portal residents recently.

I've been asked to go; I've been going and speaking at those funerals. I just want to say to the families out there, I'm trying to plan something a little special for them at the end of the year. I think at the year, I want to do something like just quickly recognize all of El Portal residents who have passed away over the past year. Since next meeting in December, I think that should be the meeting where I might put that together and do something like that. Just read their names off really quickly so that before the year ends, we just recognize that.

I just appreciate all the families that have been inviting me out. It's something that I don't look forward to going to, but I do appreciate the families having me there and inviting me as though their family. Thank you for that. The last thing I do want to say, you guys is, there's this thing which-- I know you guys might have heard of. I know some of you guys are probably really familiar with, but I've been a lot of meetings recently with Commissioner Gilbert [chuckles]. With Commissioner Gilbert about the RTZ, the Rapid Transit Zone.

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It's interesting, Commissioner Gilbert has been-- I've been like the voices of peace. It's probably no surprise like the middleman. Commissioner Gilbert asked me a lot of heated discussions about this with the other mayors of municipalities, kind of like, "Okay, you guys, let's just kind of keep the peace." I think what he's trying to say is, and I think what she's trying to say, "I'm like one of those but-- Let me tell you why I'm bringing this up this is important. Commissioner Gilbert is trying to push this thing called the Rapid Transit Zone, you guys.

It's something that's been in play for a long time, but they're really kind of changing it, and updating it, and ramping it up. What that is, is-- What he's calling for, what he's trying to pass through the commission, through the county, so that its law is this. So that there's two things we have to abide by. The first thing is, we need to-- What came out of our last meeting, and it's like Commissioner Gilbert it'll be like maybe six mayors there, and we're part of the Rapid Transit Zone or whatever. What's happening is, is that they're talking about the-- Where they want to build these cities within cities at the major stops.

Like this will be-- At first it was going to be over here, but now it's going to be 79th Street for the major stop for the Brightline, the buses, the everything. What they're asking is-- Not even asking. What they're saying is that they're going to mandate-- I have to come back with for the next meeting; I have to come back with what we feel is the lowest we would go, as far as density. If I come back with what we feel like is lowest we're going to go, and me and madam manager have been talking about this, they don't have to accept it.

Let's say, for example, I say, "Okay, you know what you guys?" I say, "You know what county in our Rapid Transit Zone--" First of all, they don't even know how far they're going to go out from 79th Street. They don't know how far they're going to go west, east, north, or south for their Rapid Transit Zone. The way it's going to look is, you're talking about-- It's like a modern metropolis that's going to expand from 79th Street, and they're going to try to bring in not only the Brightline, but they're going to try to bring in little Metromovers, Busways. These rapid transit zones are going huge. What they're telling us is that it might even stretch all the way up through where our little farm area is over here. What they're telling us to do is come back with what we feel is our lowest density point. Let's say for example if I come back to them and I say, "Okay you guys, we won't go no lower than one story." They're saying they can accept it or not accept it, and they're asking that our lowest density, for all municipalities, is about five stories, so that we wouldn't be able to go lower than five stories of building in the Rapid Transit Zone.

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That's part one. Part two is, is they're saying once that's decided by them, that it's agreed upon between us and them, but they get the last say. Once that's decided, basically by them, then the second one is we have to pass an ordinance that what our floor density is no other commission or council could ever come back behind us and lower the density. So that once it's in place, nobody can come and make a single-family home zone or something like that.

They're talking about building 37-floor foot tall buildings, 40-foot tall buildings all up and down here for their Rapid Transit Zone. All types of hotels, and restaurants, and-- They said they're trying to make it-- All these other transit zones are going to be kind of like when you walk into like Disney World, you're like in a different world, kind of, where it's just like there's a whole metropolis city within the city. Crazy going on right now. **[unintelligible 02:31:55]** go ahead.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** I've been talking about this for, I don't know, a little over a year because there are other large open centers around the country that are eliminating single-family housing zoning. People are like, "Oh, that's not going to ever happen in Miami," because they are talking about exactly that, right? My question is, has anybody considered what the consequences of waste is? Has anybody considering what the consequences of water usage? Has anybody considered who this is going to benefit in terms of all the outrageously large developers, and literally have everybody called into the terms of the large development they give us?

In all of this, what I would demand would that be, okay, fine so if they're going to steamroll us on the density, my demand would be that low-income housing be part of this entire project. If they don't have a contingency, or a requirement, for a certain level of low-income housing within this then that's beyond short-sighted, and so-- If I'm going to get steamrolled on density, if I'm going to get steamrolled on the waste that's going to be produced. Are these public transportation systems they're bringing in-- What's going to happen to the air quality?

Will it be electric? Even at that point, does that mean we're going to have **[unintelligible 02:33:28]** point putting more radioactivity into the bay? What are the consequences of the resources that are already limited in this swampland that we live in? If all of those things are going to be taken out of our hands, then maybe the only thing left really to fight for truly is that we just have a very desperate and genuine need for low-income housing. It has to be part of the discussion, and if it's not then Disneyland wins and we're all going to become **[unintelligible 02:34:01]**

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**Mayor Nickerson:** They're looking at ultra-modern apartments. They're not really looking at low-income housing. Let me just say--

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** [unintelligible 02:34:12] he knows too, it's ridiculous.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, let me just say this. Once this happens, you guys, myself, and the manager, we are in discussions with-- We had so many people reach out to us about these areas and stuff like that already. We're in discussions with [unintelligible 02:34:30] Juan and Camilla. We'll be reaching out. We've been having a lot of meetings with the [unintelligible 02:34:37] entire staff, I think I mentioned before so that we could try to protect this area over here before they pass what they pass over there. We're trying to work hard to do that. Go ahead, Councilman, go ahead [inaudible 02:34:51]

**Councilperson Pirela:** [inaudible 02:34:52] Don't we have already a charter to [unintelligible 02:34:59] to the density of--

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes. Yes, we have that.

**Councilperson Pirela:** We have that?

**Mayor Nickerson:** But it's not approved by the county. They don't care about that.

**Councilperson Pirela:** They don't care? No, I understand. I'm very [crosstalk]

**Mayor Nickerson:** No, I'm not asking you, I'm saying, "Yes, no, actually, we have that," but our charter was not accepted by like a county resolution. That part of our charter wasn't accepted. It's recognized, you know what I'm saying because it's our charter, but that part is not accepted as a separate resolution or something like that in the county so that they can't supersede. [crosstalk]

**Councilperson Pirela:** You told me that if they decide to pass that somebody [unintelligible 02:35:35] How can we build a high-rise then? [crosstalk]

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, once their zone will take precedence.

**Councilperson Pirela:** [unintelligible 02:35:47] because they actually went through in the area of [unintelligible 02:35:51] and--

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**Mayor Nickerson:** Do what they want to do?

**Councilperson Pirela:** -they got Commissioner Hilberg and Monister.

**Mayor Nickerson:** [unintelligible 02:36:00]

**Councilperson Pirela:** [unintelligible 02:36:01] also of a jury like, you know. I've been telling you [unintelligible 02:36:05] Commissioners, man, they don't care about. I think [unintelligible 02:36:09] be over-- Actually, [unintelligible 02:36:13] is being overpopulated. They just approved the zoning in that area, and there's more than 1,500 units going in a less than a mile [unintelligible 02:36:25] area, so it would just--

Streets are not wide enough. The traffic is just insane already, so [inaudible 02:36:35] that area of being a high-density area. It started like that. [inaudible 02:36:42] I wasn't at ease [inaudible 02:36:48] the residents, the homeowners in that area when they're prepared with statistics and everything, and they just forget.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Right, Miami has one of the best air quality and water quality, in the entire country is right now. However, there's already been expiration dates put on the water quality [unintelligible 02:37:09] County because of the usage versus the supply. Just destroyed the Everglades, so all that water is gone, literally. The Everglades was what provided us with the clean water. We killed the Everglades. They've already put an expiration date on clean water in Miami. What is it? There's a very real discussion about the-- Resources are not endless in Miami Bay County. We've already done our best to destroy what's here.

Then the water or the air quality is one of the best in the country, largely because of the ocean breeze, but also because we're not as popular as other parts because of the western boundary that-- Somehow the western boundary is becoming a proper developer, so we're going to go vertical, but vertical-- The supply chain of waste is a very real thing to consider in terms of density. Unless there's some very forward-thinking, and far-thinking, thought going into what is the impact going to be-- Density is fine. [unintelligible 02:38:19] density radically. If there's a plan for how to mitigate waste and responsibly preserve resources.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you, Vice Mayor Urbom. You guys, I think that-- I've had a pretty good working relationship. [unintelligible 02:38:39] I had a great working relationship with Commissioner Diez, or Commissioner [inaudible 02:38:44] or Commissioner [inaudible 02:38:45] At the end of the day, we're here to protect our community. That's first and foremost.

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No matter how much of a relationship I have with them, no matter how much we get along, how many great conversations we have, and things like that.

[unintelligible 02:39:00] with them, which was going really good on our side, but at the end of the day, no matter what, we're here to fight for our community first. If I have to go against individuals who I respect, I've been [inaudible 02:39:13] if I have to go against them, then that's just what it is because that's what we've got to fight for El Portal first [inaudible 02:39:20] That's it for our-- Yes? Go ahead, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Is it possible we can have a presentation by the county company, ask and say what's going on as supposed to [unintelligible 02:39:34] I want to validate you, that's the first thing. [inaudible 02:39:39] I want to make sure that they understand that we understand what are we talking about? Because they're talking about rolling out something that we don't already have [unintelligible 02:39:51] County's property are not impacted.

They're going to impact us to put something over there. They've been trying to find a shortcut, there's a shortcut through this. I think it can do some good because like you-- Let's see how they talk. Let's see what you're talking about. Invite them to one of our-- What was that committee? Whatever committee they come on.

**Mayor Nickerson:** To the planning and zoning committee.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** To planning the zoning [unintelligible 02:40:16] guys. As matter of fact, don't even let us hear, but at least let the community hear about it. They're going to come in and talk about trash about this kind of stuff? Then the whole village needs to know about it. When we have to flood the county commission, we will be right with you. We'll be a united front saying, "Listen, we're not trying to destroy El Portal. We're certainly not trying to change the atmosphere." To me, I'd rather go in with a peaceful mood than a radical disruption.

That's just the way I see it. Listen, we didn't always have a-- It used to be noisy around when the train came. You guys remember that? Used to be noised around here and someone told them, "You come here some times, [inaudible 02:41:06] certain time. Don't be blowing that doggone horn at [inaudible 02:41:09] because early in the morning [unintelligible 02:41:12] Early in the morning they would start blowing the darn horn four to five o'clock in the morning, with people still in the bed [unintelligible 02:41:19] You can make a change. Why I want the whole community to hear this.

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If this is going to impact us the way you say, then our community to come up to the forum and hear it [inaudible 02:41:30] If there's a way to [unintelligible 02:41:34] put a referendum on the ballot in the next election that says we don't want what we don't want, or we do want what we do want, and that's it. We're the quiet little village that people talk about. A village, a real-life honest little village, I'll appreciate the report, but I had no idea that they're going to put a railroad-- [unintelligible 02:41:57] Railroad ramp? Something brought us.

**Councilperson Martin:** Ramrod.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Ramrod. Railroad, that's what it sounds like. That ramrod.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Railroad and ramrod. They tried everything. Everything comes from [inaudible 02:42:12]

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** I said it, I'm not even going to be embarrassed, I said it [inaudible 02:42:17] wanted to say. We are real live honest little village. Not someplace that tourists would come in here and decide [inaudible 02:42:27] No. Then why is it? You know what? Responsibility. [inaudible 02:42:33] Street, ain't nothing to say about it. You on this side of [unintelligible 02:42:37] Street, we've got something to say about it.

**Councilperson Pirela:** [inaudible 02:42:41] instead of saying a humble housing, door-to-door housing, but is that [inaudible 02:42:53] housing but is that regulated by the government? They're not saying how much they're charging monthly. A teacher doesn't make \$40,000 [unintelligible 02:43:03] can't afford \$3,000 or \$5,000 a month for housing. [inaudible 02:43:10] Miami.

**Councilperson Martin:** [unintelligible 02:43:12] a presentation because to [unintelligible 02:43:15] so we know what's an effective way to combat it, as to [unintelligible 02:43:21] and whatever [inaudible 02:43:24]

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** We got the attorney on the line. Joe, you heard about this? I think that's him looking at it, right? [unintelligible 02:43:35]

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, I think he's looking better.

**Councilperson Martin:** [inaudible 02:43:41]

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** He may not be? It's like [unintelligible 02:43:47]

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**Mayor Nickerson:** [unintelligible 02:43:49]

**Councilperson Martin:** It might be on mute.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Attorney Geller, you hear us? You're on mute.

**Councilperson Martin:** It's on mute, [unintelligible 02:43:58]

**Village Manager Alou:** Attorney Geller, you up?

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** No, no, no, he's good.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Attorney Geller?

**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** Yes, I'm sorry. I was muted. Yes?

**Mayor Nickerson:** No problem.

**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** What is it, Vice Mayor?

**Mayor Nickerson:** We're discussing the Rapid Transit Zone.

**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** Vice Mayor?

**Mayor Nickerson:** No, Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward was asking, do you know about the Rapid Transit Zone? We're discussing the Rapid Transit Zone that the county commission is starting to poll on to the municipalities about. Have you heard about the Rapid Transit Zone, and what they're talking about doing? The density.

**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** Are you asking me, Mayor?

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, you, yes. Councilman Lightfoot-Ward was asking, have you heard about the Rapid Transit Zone, with the Miami-Dade Commission and what they're doing? With density [crosstalk]

**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** I really have not heard very much about it.

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**Mayor Nickerson:** Okay. No problem. Thank you. Thank you, Attorney Geller. What I will do is I will reach out to them. I don't want to give you guys any false promises, I'll reach out to them, but if you already know-- To go to their offices to meet with them is hard enough, versus them to come out to a municipality to do a discussion. What I will do, if I can, I will push on that. Like I said in my **[unintelligible 02:45:19]** persistence. I will push on that, but what I will do though is-- this I can promise you, the next time they do have one of those meetings, I'll reach out to you all. If you're all able to make it, we could carpool, you know what I'm saying, and do the-- We just won't discuss anything that's on the agenda or anything.

**Interim CFO Wallace:** Caravan.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Caravan, we'll caravan. I will, I definitely will do that. I promise you guys that I will-- The next time we have one of those meetings, I'll let you guys know when it is so you guys can make it **[inaudible 02:45:54]**

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Even the committee members?

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** **[inaudible 02:45:58]**

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes, I'll do that. What I'll do is, because I-- Even though for these meetings we were closed, so I'll ask them for permission for guests, for four guests, and then we'll do it like that.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** They're put in public knowledge or--

**Mayor Nickerson:** No, these are closed-door meetings.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** Okay. It's not like they can just drop in **[inaudible 02:46:18]**

**Mayor Nickerson:** No. No, these are closed-door meetings.

**Vice Mayor Urbom:** All right then.

**Mayor Nickerson:** All right you guys, that being said, Attorney Geller, do you have any report for us?

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**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** Yes mayor. Very briefly the only thing to report, we received an order from [unintelligible 02:46:37] on the matter that was brought by the new police union, by the Fraternal Order of Police, pursuing to a hearing that was held on Zoom between myself and the other attorney. They have approved the bargaining unit, and unless there's some change, they will authorize the bargaining unit to go forward and hold an election sometime in, hopefully, by the end of the year. That's the only thing to report. I'm happy to answer any questions.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Sounds good. Any questions for the attorney? All right, hearing none, moving right along. [unintelligible 02:47:22] this time right now where anybody wants to come up and say anything you want to say at all? You can talk about anything at all, [unintelligible 02:47:28] add this for the record. Anybody on Zoom, or any thumbs up? Thumbs up? All right, hearing none, moving to adjourn. Let me just say before we adjourn, my people at Full Moon, from now on it will only be one of you here because we won't be doing the hybrid anymore, so we won't be doing the Zoom. We won't be having a second person anymore. Just want to say, it's been real. [laughs] It's been a good role.

[applause]

**Mayor Nickerson:** You guys did a wonderful job getting us through COVID, and all that type of stuff. We really appreciate all of you guys, and we'll be seeing you guys down the road. All right, thank you, guys. Do we have a motion to adjourn?

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** We do.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Motion to adjourn by Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward. Do we have a second?

**Councilperson Martin:** Second.

**Mayor Nickerson:** Second by Councilperson Martin/Councilperson Pirela. [chuckles] It was a team for the second. The regular council meeting for Tuesday, November 16, 2021 is adjourned at 9:45 PM. [hits gavel]

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** Mayor?

**Mayor Nickerson:** Yes.

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**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** [unintelligible 02:48:24] going on [unintelligible 02:48:25]

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** On Friday.

**Councilperson Lightfoot-Ward:** On Friday?

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** But it's [unintelligible 02:48:28]

[crosstalk]

**Interim Village Attorney Geller:** All right. Night, everyone.

[crosstalk]

**Mayor Nickerson:** Thank you, Attorney Geller.

**Village Clerk Jacobi:** From 4:00 in the morning to 5:00 AM. I will [unintelligible 02:48:39]

[crosstalk]

[02:48:52] [END OF AUDIO]

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